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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****MAR 30 2006****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

App. No. : 10/604,512 Confirmation No. 1511  
Applicant : Masuhiro Natsuhara et al.  
Filed : July 28, 2003  
T.C./A.U. : 1763  
Examiner : Ram N. Kackar  
Docket No. : 39.018-AG  
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**  
**Accompanying Request for Continued Examination**  
**Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

Sir:

In response to the Office action, made final and mailed on November 30, 2005 in the above-identified patent application, Applicants have elected to file a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

As a submission required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(a), the following amendment accompanies the present RCE. (The RCE is being filed on March 30, 2006 along with a petition for a one-month extension of time, and is therefore timely filed.)

**AMENDMENT Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121**

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this paper.